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Nova Southeastern University

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Dear Students, Parents and Faculty,

Joseph Pulitzer once gave this advice to writers: “Put it before them briefly so they will read it, clearly so they will appreciate it, picturesquely so they will remember it, and above all, accurately so they will be guided by its light.” In this issue of Treasures and Dreams, our students have crafted exciting moments, memorable scenes of beauty, and thoughtful pieces that touch the heart. As you read, you will surely appreciate, remember and be guided by the light produced by these talented young writers of the University Lower School.

Special thanks are extended to the classroom teachers who encourage and inspire your students’ writing every day. Your support of this project makes it happen. Thanks also to our school Director, Dr. Brennan, for your continued assistance with the magazine.

The student staff is responsible for all illustrations in the magazine. They are recommended by classroom teachers for their artistic ability and responsibility. This session’s staff has been a cooperative and creative group, and it has been wonderful working with you. Thanks to each of you.

I will end with one more quote for our student writers, this one from Ralph Waldo Emerson: “‘Tis the good reader that makes the good book.” In other words, if you aspire to improve your writing, keep reading!

Sincerely,

Nancy Cantor, Editor

Cover designed by Molly Gordon. Illustrations by Treasures and Dreams staff.
American Beauty

A Veteran’s Poem

A letter is at my doorstep,
I wonder what it’s for
The government asked for a favor
For me to serve in war.
I tell the news to my family
They nervously ask why
I say that it’s important
My mother starts to cry.

The boat to Iraq is average
My fellow soldiers are very tense
To hold a straight face after all they lost
For me just doesn’t make sense.
I have been in war for a year
It’s very hard to do
I dearly miss my family
I hope they miss me too.

I hope they miss me too.

Elizabeth Deckler  Grade 5

Veterans Day

What is Veterans Day? Veterans Day is a time to think about the rights and freedom you have that most people don’t have. It’s a time to think about what America had to do to get those rights. It’s a time to thank those who worked hard and fought for our country, to keep it safe. Many people lost their lives for a good future for not just their family but for everyone. It is an honor to say we live in America. Veterans Day should be celebrated by everyone everywhere all across America. If it weren’t for the people who fought and died for our country, America wouldn’t be what it is today. I am glad to live in America and you should be too.

Hillary Gabriele  Grade 4

Veterans Day

We thank the army for all their chores,
While they fought in many wars.
They’ve been in World War I and II,
Hopefully there won’t be a III or IV.

They shoot, they fire,
and sometimes die,
That always will make us cry.

So make a note and put it in your folders
Every November, we celebrate this day
To honor the veterans
who have passed away
We go to the cemeteries to see the graves
Of the soldiers who died for the country
ey they were going to save.

Rhiya Mittal  Grade 4

Veteran’s Day

Veteran’s Day is about remembering soldiers
So make a note and put it in your folders
Every November, we celebrate this day
To honor the veterans
who have passed away
We go to the cemeteries to see the graves
Of the soldiers who died for the country
ey they were going to save.

Jessie Boden  Grade 5
**Simply Serious**

A Fork in the Road

Some people go one way, and fail their life for good, Some people go the other way, And they're not as misunderstood. But the man standing there, next to his white shed, Was the one who decided where you should forge ahead. The man said the moon was one of his winking eyes, And compared to us he has incredible size. Then I saw the darkness; I saw his face, The giant galaxy, his awesome grace, I've seen the darkness; I've seen his smile, A banner of stars stretching a mile. You may know that these roads Won't always get you to heaven, You will go to heaven by staying At that white shed, You won't know why, it'll seem quite odd, But the man by the shed, that man is God.

Kaleb Shafa

Spirits

Fly over the horizon, take a glance and go Look at all the life around you Deer sneak through the bushes Birds take an adventure high in the sky Foxes scamper through the trees I go with the wind, racing the eagle Go over a sea of grass, beneath you will see A herd of horses galloping over the land as if they were flying I go back to the past and see the dinosaurs, Beautiful creatures roaming, The earth has a different unique color of its own. For I am a spirit, to love, and to care...

Tia Blais-Billie

Teardrop

A tear drop like a drop of water in the ocean to me it is not, it is a storybook full of emotion full of crying, full of teardrops

Amanda Lowitz

The Arrival

I'm riding on the rocky road going to Disney World. The streetlights shimmer in the distance, the beeping of the cars roar like dragons. The leaves swirl in the dim light. The moon comes up. Everything is still and silent.

Suddenly the car stops. I am at the hotel parking lot. My brothers and I spill out of the car. We walk to the office, pay our bill and get the keys to our room. We walk up the dark steps and finally I am at the door. Right in front of me is the number of our room, 229. I walk up to it and put my hand on the cold doorknob, turn it and walk in. I open a strange door... and then I see the comfortable bed. I undress, climb into the bed, snuggle in and dream about tomorrow.

Grant Besner

Rumble Train

Chug, chug, the train rumbled over the windswept ground. White snowflakes fell from the sky. The trees outside looked gloomy. The train rattled and clattered as it came to a halt. The doors opened and an icy breeze ran into the train. I shivered. The doors banged shut. I heard a screeching sound. There was a thin layer of ice on the window. My cheeks were frozen. We finally stopped. The doors slapped shut behind me. I watched the train rumble out of sight.

Lina Volin
Fright Night

On Halloween night I knocked on the door and said Trick-or-Treat, Which woke up the bird who cried tweet-tweet. That startled the spider who fell on the ghost that swooped through the air and onto the post. That rattled the skeleton who fell on the mummy Who from what we know sat on Frankenstein's tummy. Then the knock came again... So Frankenstein went to the door Saw small Frankenstein who lifted his mask. Then Frankenstein took off out of his house with everyone behind him, Leaving me to find them.

Nicole Wiesenthal Grade 4

Black Cat

Black cat on the fence, eyes so green, You look so mean. Sneaking, creeping, snacking, treating, What a busy kitten you are. Ghosts, goblins, monsters, bats, Witches wearing funny hats. You sit on the fence meowing with pride, Watching everyone play on this wonderful night.

Megan Shindler Grade 4

Nicole Phillips Grade 4

Halloween

I walk through the night on Halloween I see a bunch of Halloween scenes Goblins and ghouls fly through the air Giving me quite a scare I knock on the door of a haunted house Then I see Frankenstein with his pet mouse I run to the house and see the witch of the west She called me a little pest I run so fast to my home I get so scared because I hear a moan My Mom and Dad answer the door Now that I am with my parents, Halloween is not scary anymore!

Nicole Phillips Grade 4

Halloween Night

The full moon's light glistened upon the streets of my haunted neighborhood. The trees swayed, the grass was vibrating against the wind. It was Halloween, night of the living dead. Witches, goblins, ghouls and ghosts appeared in the streets. Surprises and secrets were waiting on doorsteps, scary or funny. A cold soft drizzle sifted against my back—it was raining. It is so appealingly wonderful when you say the magic words 'trick or treat' and the people who live there give you candy!

Erica Steinkohl Grade 2

Megan Shindler Grade 4
The Winning Play

The sun was hot and the White Sox were playing a game. We were playing against the Giants. We were in the sixth inning and I was at first base. A big boy was up. I moved back. He hit a line drive at me. I felt weird, but I caught the ball, and I tagged the boy that was running. It was a double play! The score was 20 to 1! We won the game!

Julian Cabrera

On the Court

As he fakes right, the ball slowly flies out of his hands and aims for the rim. His eyes widen as the ball gets closer. His teammates wonder if the ball is going to go in or not. The ball circles the rim a few times and plops in. It slowly descends from the hoop and bounces on the floor. It looks like the Lakers win again. After the game, he picks up the bouncing ball and throws it into the stands. The expression on his face is like he just won the Nobel Peace Prize. It looks like the floor has a grin on that is impossible to resist.

Jonathan Greenfield

Bike Riding

I thought I was going to fall off the bike. The bike was wiggling a lot and it wouldn’t stay straight. My dad was holding onto the back of my seat. He was running to the side of me. He let go of me. I didn’t feel him anymore. I kept pedaling my bike. I bumped into a tree because I could not stop. My wheel hit the tree. I got back onto the court. My dad started to hold onto the back of my seat again. He let go. I started to pedal by myself. I did it! I knew how to ride a bike! I felt excited that I could ride a bike by myself!

Aly Pacitti

The Game

The sun was shining when I was playing tee ball. The ball came to me and it was going like 50 miles per hour. I caught the ball and made a double play. It hurt a lot! At the last second when I made the catch, the game was coming to an end. I was playing shortstop. I caught the ball and ran to second base. Three outs, I shouted! We ran into the dugout. We got into our batting order. I was second up to bat. I hit a triple. Next up was Ben. Ben got me home. I slide headfirst to home. I was safe! We won!

Adam Tabatchnick

The Soccer Save

The cones dot the soccer field as the warm breeze sways through the trees. Birds chirp. The clouds, heavy with rain, blanket the green field. The clouds can’t hold on any longer, and soon a light drizzle falls from the clouds and onto the soccer field, glazing the field with wetness. The goal net sways with the breeze.

The opposing team dribbles down the field. The ball zigzags back and forth through the players’ feet. They pass the ball to one of their teammates. Half of the soccer field is empty. The player shoots. The ball streaks through the navy blue sky with white and black aots. The next thing I know, I’m soaring through the air reaching for the ball. I get closer and closer. I hit the ball and fall onto the grassy floor. The crowd cheers. The ball rolls out of bounds and the other team gets the ball.

David Branse
The Bushy Tail Squirrels

The squirrels are jumping and playing, chasing each other. They are jumping branch to branch like playing tag. They are flying through the air like planes soaring through the sky. The squirrels are zipping through the leafy trees. The squirrels are on the roof of the school.

Charlie Swanson  Grade 2

Chipmunk

A light brown creature, in the spring and summer he freely trots around, but in autumn he knows he has to get ready for the winter. He takes his last fun hop and starts collecting acorns and bringing them to his hole because, just as he suspected, winter came his way. But he was ready to get into his hole and eat and sleep the whole winter through. Soon he will begin his wise good routine all over again.

Persis Bhadha  Grade 3

Chocolate Kittens

The cats' bright blue eyes are the color of the sky. They twinkle while they're looking all different ways. It's too cute not to adore. Their ears are up and their heads are crooked. On their noses is what looks like a dot of indigo glowing. The cat's chocolate brown fur is like a feather. When you glide your hand through their fur, it feels like an angel's hand is touching you. Their whiskers blend in with rich brown fur and tiny tummies the color of honey. They sit upon a dark green dotted cushion with a dark wooden stand. The sponge painted walls gleam from the sun's bright sunlight. As evening falls, stars begin twinkling and the kittens doze off to sleep.

Emily Chancey  Grade 3

Night's Journey

Darkness takes over the jagged cave. A bat hovers over the ground's dirty surface. Yellow stalactites droop down from the hard ceiling.

He sleeps through the golden day And strikes through the sparkling night. His veins ruby red, his body white and furry, and his ears three inches tall.

He perches on a glowing yellow rock As the shimmering sun rises And he falls into a deep sleep.

Jordyn Rosenblum  Grade 3
Feathered Friends

Branch to Branch

A red bird flies from branch to branch. It hovers over the juicy sweet grass where the lion catches its prey. The bird goes onto another branch. Its wings stop fluttering. The sun starts to come up and the bird goes into its nest. The grass starts to sway in the wind as the bird comes out of its nest for a new day to begin.

Austin Payne Grade 3

The Blue Bird

As my eyes gaze on the blue bird, I see the bird walking farther and farther away. I can see the bird walking in the brown mulch. The sun dances around the bird’s face. The wind is pushing the bird toward the mulch. The sky is glittering all around the bird.

Amanda Caster Grade 2

The Gentle Birds

I heard the birds soaring through the hot steam of the morning. It was a very calm morning. I kept gazing at the birds as they soared through the sky. The birds were peaceful as if they just started a whole new world.

Cassady Commette Grade 2

Baby Birds

Little baby birds cute and soft like me
When I was a baby
crawling cross the floor
Fly through the air

Amber Addison Grade 3

Playground Birds

On the playground I saw birds that had gold spangled wings. They looked like their trembling wings were wings of an airplane. The birds darted through the bleak frozen sky. The sky looked like a blue frozen courtyard with birds flying through the new world.

Alina Carey Grade 2

The Beautiful Birds

I hear the birds chirping as the dashing wind soars across the sky. The birds are shimmering in their nest. When I gaze at them the birds gaze back at me. They look like an angel in heaven.

Blake Hollander Grade 2

The Black Bird

A shiny bird chirped like the bright sky. The bird pecked the ground like a hammer as it peered at me. The bird was as black as a storm cloud. Then it flew away into the bright sky as I gazed at it. The sun blushed in the trees. I glanced at the sky.

Valerie O’Toole Grade 2

The Parrot

The colorful bird
Reminds me of Grandma’s bird
A parrot soaring.

Josh Haugen. Grade 3
Purple Day

Purple Day is the name of the holiday I made up. It is on February 29th. February 29th comes only once every four years. Everyone in the United States will celebrate it. The national Purple Day song is "Oh Hail Purple," and you sing it in the morning when you wake up. The foods you eat are purple colored burgers and fries for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. The drink is a grape daiquiri. The game you play is with a purple basketball. Everyone will have a great Purple Day.

Taylor Bast
Grade 5

My Birthday

It was my birthday. I was so happy. I felt like a shooting star in the sky. My heart was bursting! I was as happy as an angel. My friends and I were so joyful together. We had a blast together! The cake was terrific! That was the greatest birthday.

Courtney Epstein
Grade 2

Ipod Day

Ipod Day is the best holiday in the world. On this day you get to skip school and go wherever you want and listen to your Ipod. This comes once a year on October 13. The reason this spectacular holiday falls on this marvelous day is because it's the creator's birthday. The creator, Matthew Greenfield, has come up with this wonderful holiday. The catch is everyone who doesn't have an Ipod gets one for free. This is a once in a year chance, so enjoy Ipod Day.

Matthew Greenfield
Grade 5

Up North

If I were in Rhode Island in the fall, I would hear the cold birds chirping in the cool misty air. When I would walk on the crumbly leaves crunching sounds rose. When I watched leaves fly in the air, I saw that there were millions in the air. When I looked outside the window, the ground would change colors like a rainbow on the floor. When the wind picked up a little, the breezy sound started to rise and it got really windy. It tasted like the sweet smell of fresh air. It started to get colder so winter must be coming.

Brent Freed
Cleveland, Ohio
Grade 4

Today is another great day in Cleveland, Ohio, and birds are chirping and the wind is blowing. You can smell the wood being burned inside the houses. The deer are racing to get to the stream. When you take every step you can hear the leaves crunching. You can see the cardinals' red feathers. You can hear the ice cold water rushing through the forest. You see the oldest lighthouse on Lake Erie stand tall. And you can taste the sweet hot chocolate, and feel the whipped cream melt in your mouth. And that is Cleveland, Ohio.

Michael Mooney
Grade 4

The Keys

I'm excited about going to the Keys
For my friend's birthday
Going to a house where she lives
Going to the beach, to a pizza restaurant,
Doing more fun things
I can't wait, I can't sleep
It is stuck in my head,
Two more weeks 'til we go.

Aku Acquaye
Grade 3
Fabulous Food

Fruit Fun Food

The delicious plate of fruit-topped waffles starts saying my name, with its strawberries, blueberries and raspberries mixed with bright yellow cream. Smothered with strawberry syrup, its creamy taste says it all. With each new fruit, it’s like a whole new taste. Its bite warms my heart when I eat it. It’s all mine!

Zack Caparelli  Grade 3

The Joy of Food

Mountains of chips, plains of pie, fields of salad, oceans of drinks, a magnificent feast, so yummy! The scents hover under my nose. They smell so good. The colors cascade all over the room, flowing like a massive river, flooding the house with color. I can’t wait for the best.

Logan Peretz  Grade 3

Night Shopping

The cool breeze frosts the clear glass windows of the store. Sirens blare in the distance. The cars roar and screech to a stop. The sounds of the night soothe my ears as I walk further through the store, mesmerized by the lights.

I shove the cart into the open area. I zoom after it just as it barely nicks a carton of peppers. Eventually, the cart comes to a halt and so do I. As I slowly walk toward the cart, an announcement blares over the loudspeaker. I reach the cart and slowly push it back to the area where my parents are shopping. My mother, sensing my movement, whirs around and says it’s time to leave.

Carson Poltorack  Grade 2

Holiday Memory

The food is always extremely delectable on Passover. The only boring part about eating is that you have to wait until all the blessings are said, and they seem to take forever. My aunt made her famous sweet and sour meatballs, and she helped make the matzo ball soup along with my mom and grandma. They made many other delicious dishes that day. In my opinion, the food was as good as sushi, but it didn’t come close to being as good as a Philadelphia cheese steak. My aunt’s meatballs were the most popular food on the table. I didn’t eat or drink the things that we say the blessing over, but I ate pretty much everything else. The food was the best we ever had on any holiday.

Brent Stone  Grade 5

It’s Dinner Time

The sweet and smoky smell greets us as we enter Japan Inn. My bright brown eyes see the red hot, burning and sizzling fire. My mouth drools for shrimp. My warm hands feel the cold air brush against my warm body. My ears hear the sizzling scallops.

We sit at a table with a gleaming silver stove. The chef magically twirls his spatula and fork as they cling and clank. Then he puts the red shrimp, green vegetables, and white onions on the cook top. His knife carefully slices the tails of the shrimp. One of them flies into his puffy white hat. He works as fast as a machine. Seven onions sliced in a pile, making a small mound like a volcano. Then he scoops everything up and serves it all.

Leah Bush  Grade 2
At the Beach

The salty water tickles my toes. The palm trees sway side to side. The yellow sand is like a cozy blanket. The waves splash almost as high as the sky. The strong breeze blows the sand into my face. As I glide through the water, I spot tiny red and white fishes. The white glittery shells look like diamonds on the dark ocean floor. The sun sets as the sky turns pink, purple.

Shari Kumar

Waterslide

The water is gushing down the slide. The sun is shining. The wind wraps itself around me. I’m waiting at the top for my friend to reach the slide. I gaze out to the pool. I see kids playing and laughing. Finally it is my turn. My heart is pounding fast. A smile spreads across my face. I sit down and I push myself off. I zigzag down the slide. I splash into the warm pool. My friend grabs my hand and we go on the slide again and again.

Alison Singer

A Pond of Nice Water

Water falls on the dewy grass as fast as rockets.
Wind passes the shimmering water
The glistening sun dazzles on the water
Fog approaches the silent water
Resting in its pond
Droplets as big as tears fall on the ground
I see them fade from sight as I step over it
I leave just as a swirling fog comes
I slowly walk away, leaving the water in its Peacefulness.

Richard Shin

Under the Sea

They soar over the coral reefs, their shells gleaming and protecting them from danger. They huddle up, keeping them warm from the icy cold water. Their bodies glisten in the shimmering sun. The patterns on their shells move swiftly through open passages, looking down at each other. Their heads sway in the sea like they’re dancing to music.

Hannah Veale

Walking in the Rain

Trees, deer everywhere
Raining in a big blue pond
Drops under a tree

Nicholas Novelli

The Beach

The glistening ocean crashes onto the shore. The palm trees rock in the cool breezy wind. The gray-brown sand washes away. Some grains of sand try to fight the tide, but the wind has a strong gust to help the ocean to victory. The golden sun makes the water glisten in the light. It is such a beautiful day at the beach!

Max Pineiro

Grade 2

Grade 3
Wild Environment

Fall
It's a beautiful day in Washington D.C. I taste the hot apple cider in a steamy house. The leaves are falling on my face. I can touch the nice green cold grass. I can hear the birds chirping. I love when the leaves fall down and hear the crunching from under my feet. Fall is one of my favorite seasons.

Brandon Berman

The Glorious Outside
The air smells fresh and clean. Shimmering butterflies flutter their delicate wings. The airplane gently bumps the clouds. Birds soar in the yellow sunshine while they sing their beautiful songs. The wind rushes in and out of the puffy white clouds. The swaying trees swish back and forth.

Taylor Ginsberg

By a Pond
Swans paddle in the gleaming pond. A garden of roses and tulips and juicy sweet green grass. Benches wait for someone to sit down. Two gazebos wait for someone to dance. A waterfall cascades down. Pink, orange, purple and red flowers all cover the land. The golden sun reflects in the water. The day is fading and it is time to say “farewell.”

Katie Reiss

Inside the Cavern
The long, ice-cream-cone shaped stalactites reach down from the ceiling, like fingers reaching for a cookie. Stalagmites grow from the ground, shaped like oversized combs. The climber's headlight lights up the cave with an eerie glow. Big lumps of rock, covered with mud, resemble the heart of a human, beating loudly. The hiker finds the end of the cave. The cave darkens again.

Leor Shuflita

Soaring in the Air
As I look up at the big boat called Soaring in the Air ride, my heart begins to pound. I walk up the stairs and into the boat. A handlebar falls on my lap slowly, clinking as it falls down. It frightens me at first but then I am fine. A man presses a button. A few seconds later the boat soars into the air. Everyone and everything look like small ants. The boat goes up and down. I lean back and close my eyes tight. When I open my eyes the ride is over and I come out with a smile.

Ashley Marcus

Peace
Peace on earth and the peace in your heart, When you combine them, they make a beautiful earth. With a beautiful life, life is beautiful in every way. Keep peace on earth, life will go on, Peace we love.

Erika Mazer

As I sit by the window and glance, a storm is coming up and making a big mess. Everything that I have known for a long time has been destroyed before my very eyes. Two monster trees fell down and it was very scary.

Erika Mazer

The Storm

Grade 3

Soaring in the Air ride, my heart begins to pound. I walk up the stairs and into the boat. A handlebar falls on my lap slowly, clinking as it falls down. It frightens me at first but then I am fine. A man presses a button. A few seconds later the boat soars into the air. Everyone and everything look like small ants. The boat goes up and down. I lean back and close my eyes tight. When I open my eyes the ride is over and I come out with a smile.

Ashley Marcus

Grade 3

Peace
Peace on earth and the peace in your heart, When you combine them, they make a beautiful earth. With a beautiful life, life is beautiful in every way. Keep peace on earth, life will go on, Peace we love.
I can show patriotism in many ways. I can raise money for hospitals where veterans stay. I can get people to give money by telling them we should give money for important places that help our country. I can go to the hospitals and give the veterans flowers. I can also give them thank-you cards. I can try to make the veterans that are sad happy by giving them flowers and chocolates.

My hope for this world is that there will be peace in the world. Also I hope that one day we can all live together, not just as a continent, but a world of peace.

Matthew Fox
Grade 4

Martin Luther King, Jr. was helpful.
Dr. King said you have to be respectful and equal. He won a special award. He was a preacher. We Americans celebrate it on January 17th every year.

Jacob Wilentz
Grade Kg

Crackling Fire
Crackle fire, Indians dance, maracas shake
Meat cooks, and the corn is ready
Gather for a feast, it's Thanksgiving time!
A time to hunt, a time to harvest crops,
A time has come to crunch and munch
Now we say our prayer
and let the Indian spirit be with us
Next Thanksgiving will be better
than the last
Fly south birds, it will shiver and freeze
Go away, bye bye, birds of all kinds
See you next year.

Adrienne Bythwood
Grade 3

Patriotism
I can show that I care for my country by cleaning my community. I can encourage people to vote in election years. I can also wear red, white and blue every day.

I can hold fundraisers every Sunday. One fundraiser can be an auction. I would sell boats and houses and I would raise a lot of money. Half the money would go to the homeless, and the other half would go to the veterans. Everybody would be happy.

I can show patriotism by making houses for the homeless with some help. Some people in the community can help me. If we worked together, all the homeless people would be in a safe house. It wouldn't be the most luxurious house, but it would still be a house. Then everybody, including the homeless people, would be happy.

Haley Steinberg
Grade 4
Treasures and Dreams Staff
August – December, 2004

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